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**Dated: December 21, 2006 Signature:**

(Michael J. Doherty)

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-441 CONT CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Ralph et al.

Application No.: 10/667,034

: Group Art Unit: 3733

**Filed: September 22, 2003**

: Examiner: E. C. Robert

For: POROUS INTERVERTEBRAL  
DISTRACTION SPACERS

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 26, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: